



Minutes of Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd board meeting, 2 November 1998, 71 Franciscan Avenue, Frankston.

Present: A.R. Gourley, Richard Greaves and David Griffiths

Apology: G. Wishart

LETS

There was a discussion on a possible outcome from the LETS conference attended by the Chairman and Secretary.

The Secretary noted that Frankston LETS had indicated an interest in exploring co-operative possibilities between local LETS and Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd. He suggested that these discussions should be pursued to further potential membership for the co-operative and that these could be facilitated if Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd applied for membership of Frankston LETS.

That we apply for membership of Frankston LETS subject to availability of funds.

M: A.R. Gourley S: D. Griffiths CARRIED

Funds

The Secretary reported that he had recently donated \$16.50 to the co-operative. The Chairman said that he would match this contribution.

Federation AGM

There was discussion on the Federation's AGM on 15 October 1998 and the recommendation of its board to increase subscription payments which would have involved increasing the co-operative's subscription by 100% - from \$50 to \$100.

At its meeting on 29 August 1998 the board had agreed to oppose the increase of the minimum annual subscription from \$50 to \$100 and support the retention of \$50.

Subsequently, the Chairman wrote to the New Market Co-operative Ltd and the Mirboo North Newspaper Co-operative Ltd seeking their support.

The Secretary reported that at the AGM Richard Greaves moved the amendment and this was supported by Neil Smith, Mirboo North Newspaper Co-operative Ltd. The initial voting was 7-7 but on a revote the amendment was carried 10-8.

He said that Richard's speech to the AGM was a critical factor in the success of the amendment.

That Richard Greaves be congratulated on the successful amendment to the Federation Board's recommendation on annual subscriptions.

M: D. Griffiths S: A.R. Gourley CARRIED

The Secretary noted that there may be an opportunity for the co-operative to contribute to the development of subscription level recommendations at the Federation's AGM in the context of a broader examination of membership of the Federation - obligations, reward and recognition.

Federation Membership

The Secretary reminded the Board that the co-operative would shortly be required to pay the Federation's annual subscription of \$50.

Victorian Co-operative News

It was noted that the article prepared by Richard Greaves for the Victorian Co-operative News on the Sydney water crisis and co-operatives was still under consideration. It was noted that its further development required the Secretary and Richard meeting.

The Secretary distributed copies of Victorian Co-operative News Volume 4 Number 5.

SEC NEWS

It was agreed that the next issue was due and that the Chairman would write an article directed at the membership - encouraging active membership.

It was noted that the last SEC News had elicited responses from three members - George Fischer, Ruth Henderson and John Lloyd who no longer wished to receive the newsletter.

Co-operative Energy Ltd

It was noted that Co-operative Energy Ltd was meeting on 4 November 1998 and that the Chairman would attend. Richard Greaves said that he was unable to attend. The Secretary reported that the agenda for the meeting included renewable energy, the Uniting Church and local government.

Membership

The Secretary read the note of 27 August 1998 from Ruth Henderson responding to his letter of 16 August 1998 regarding membership.

That the Secretary write to Ruth Henderson suggesting that she might consider taking up two \$10 shares which would cover postage costs for audit postage, that the funds would be used for this purpose because we were legally required to mail the audit to members and that if this was unsatisfactory then the board would reluctantly accept her resignation.

Moved: D. Griffiths S: R. Greaves CARRIED

The Secretary informed the meeting that Greg Wishart had been discussing membership with a Mr. Dieter Schwab (Carrum Downs) who ran his own business, Electrical Energy Plus. Greg had suggested that Mr. Schwab could be both a new member and director.

The Secretary noted that the co-operative's rules provided for five directors, that four positions were filled and that there was one vacancy.

It was agreed that Mr. Schwab would be welcome to attend the next board meeting if interested.

The Secretary said that he had advised Greg to clearly explain to Mr. Schwab where the co-operative was and was not.

NEXT MEETING: 8.00 p.m., 7 December 1998, 71 Franciscan Avenue, Frankston

MR Bowley
15/3/99